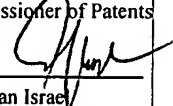


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Docket No.: 482XB

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PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box: Patent Application, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:
January 10, 2002
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Alan Israel
Reg. No. 27,564

In re: Application of : Altaf MULLA, et al.

Serial No. : Cont. of 09/227,245 Group Art Unit: 2876

Filed : January 8, 1999 Examiner: D. Lee

For : WRITING INSTRUMENT WITH LASER
POINTER AND BAR CODE READER

New York, New York
January 10, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box: Patent Application
Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of the filing fee, please amend this patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please cancel the first two paragraphs under the heading "Reference to Related Applications" and substitute the paragraph set forth on the enclosed page.